

Overview

In 2001, Cache County received the funding

necessary to create a county wide agricultural land preservation program. These funds were critical in funding the activities of the Cache County Agricultural Advisory Board and the ongoing development of agricultural preservation programs in Cache County. The main emphasis of the project was to develop a system for identifying and prioritizing which agricultural lands and open-range lands should be preserved.

2001 Planning Grant Summary

Grant Amount:	\$12,000
Matching Dollars:	\$21,000 (\$13,000 in-kind)
Match:	\$34,000
Project Cost:	\$46,000

Cache County Agricultural Preservation Plan

Local Responsibility

The Cache County Agricultural Advisory Board was appointed after the award of the Quality Growth Commission Grant and has been working diligently to accomplish the work plan. This Advisory Board will stay in place to continue developing programs to enhance the local agricultural economy and to preserve the critical land base.

State Leadership

The Quality Growth Commission awarded Cache County with a grant in the amount of \$12,000.

Economic Development

Identify agricultural lands as having statewide importance based on data received from the Utah Agriculture and Food agency and those with the highest crop yields and lands with the best soils/potential for agricultural production.

Infrastructure Development

The Agriculture Advisory Board was developed to review and provide recommendations to the Cache County Council on issues that affect agriculture. Their first goal was to establish, promote and implement the Cache Valley Agriculture Heritage Program including the establishment of policies and implementation tools that will be adopted on a county wide basis to protect critical farm land and open spaces and guide development to areas that can best support urban infrastructure.

Housing Opportunity

This is not a component of this project.

Conservation Ethic

As stated earlier, the Cache Valley Agriculture Heritage Program seeks to establish policies and implementation tools that will be adopted on a county wide basis to protect critical farm land and open spaces and guide development in these critical areas.

"This plan has helped local decision makers guide urban development away from important agricultural lands and open spaces..."

Cindy Hall-Economic Development Director

Implementation

The plan has been implemented and currently used in Cache County.

Promoting Intelligent Growth

This plan has helped local decision makers guide urban development away from important agricultural lands and open spaces to areas where services are already available.

Accomplishments

The Cache County Agricultural Advisory Board has developed the Land Evaluation Site Assessment (LESA). The County Council will (likely) adopt the LESA in the next few months.

Benefits

The Quality Growth funds provided training to the Agricultural Advisory Board to develop the LESA and support services to develop and print the LESA. QGC funds also funded the exploration of various agricultural preservation tools.